

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of isolating one or more target compounds from other component(s) of a liquid by at least two chromatographic steps, ~~which method comprises~~ comprising:

contacting the liquid, in any sequence of order, with an affinity chromatography matrix and/or an ion-exchange chromatography matrix and/or a hydrophobic interaction chromatography matrix to provide interactions between the target compound and the matrices, wherein the contacting with at least one of the matrices takes place in the presence of at least one non-ionic polyether; and

obtaining the target compound(s) in a separate fraction from the last chromatographic step.

Claim 2 (currently amended): ~~A method according to~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the target compound(s) are adsorbed to one or more of the chromatography matrices.

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~A method according to~~ The method of claim 2, wherein the adsorbed target compound(s) are released by contacting the chromatography matrix with an eluent.

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~A method according to any one of the preceding claims, which comprises~~ The method of claim 1, including two or more consecutive ion-exchange chromatography steps.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~A method according to any one of claims 1-3, which comprises~~ The method of claim 1, including an affinity chromatography step followed by an ion-exchange chromatography step.

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~A method according to any one of claims 1-3, which comprises~~ The method of claim 1, comprising an ion-exchange chromatography step followed by a hydrophobic interaction chromatography step.

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~A method according to any one of the preceding steps, which comprises~~ The method of claim 1, including three chromatographic steps.

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~A method according to any one of the preceding steps,~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the first chromatography step is performed in the presence of a non-ionic polyether.

Claim 9 (currently amended): ~~A method according to any one of the preceding steps,~~ The method of claim 1, wherein at least two steps are performed in the presence of a non-ionic polyether.

Claim 10 (currently amended): ~~A method according to any one of the preceding claims,~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the non-ionic polyether is poly(ethylene glycol) (PEG).

Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~A method according to any one of the preceding claims,~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the target compound is an antibody or an antibody compound.

Claim 12 (currently amended): ~~A method according to any one of the preceding claims, which comprises~~ The method of claim 1, including an affinity step using a matrix comprised of protein ligands immobilised to porous carriers.

Claim 13 (currently amended): ~~A method according to~~ The method of claim 12, wherein the protein ligands ~~comprises~~ includes one or more of the immunoglobulin-binding domains of Protein A.

Claim 14 (currently amended): ~~A method according to claim 12 or 13,~~ The method of claim 12, wherein the carriers are comprised of cross-linked polysaccharide particles.

Claim 15 (currently amended): ~~A method according to any one of the preceding claims, which comprises~~ The method of claim 1, including an ion-exchange step using a matrix comprised of ligands ~~comprising~~ with charged groups, which ligands have been immobilised to a carrier via extenders.

Claim 16 (currently amended): ~~A method according to~~ The method of claim 15, wherein the extenders are provided by coating the carrier surfaces with dextran.

Claim 17 (currently amended): ~~A method according to claim 15 or 16,~~ The method of claim 15, wherein the carriers are comprised of porous cross-linked polysaccharide particles.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A kit comprising at least two chromatography columns, each packed with a matrix selected from the group ~~that consists~~ consisting of an affinity chromatography matrix, an ion-exchange chromatography matrix and a hydrophobic interaction chromatography matrix; a buffer comprising a non-ionic polyether for addition to the mobile phase; and written instructions for its use for antibody purification.

Claim 19 (currently amended): ~~A kit according to~~ The kit of claim 18, wherein the non-ionic polyether is poly(ethylene glycol) (PEG).

Claim 20 (currently amended): A method of isolating an antibody compound from other component(s) of a liquid, ~~which method comprises~~ comprising at least one chromatographic step, wherein in one step, ~~the said~~ liquid is contacted with an ion-exchange chromatography matrix to adsorb the antibody compound in the presence of a buffer comprising a non-ionic polyether and at a conductivity which is equivalent to at least 200 mM NaAc.

Claim 21 (currently amended): ~~A method according to~~ The method of claim 20, wherein the non-ionic polyether is poly(ethylene glycol) (PEG).

Claim 22 (currently amended): ~~A method according to claim 20 or 21,~~ The method of claim 20, wherein the ion-exchange chromatography matrix comprises charged ligands, ~~which have been~~ immobilised to one or more porous carriers via extenders.

Claim 23 (currently amended): ~~A method according to~~ The method of claim 22, wherein the extenders are provided by coating the carrier surfaces with dextran.

Claim 24 (currently amended): ~~A method according to any one of claims 20-23,~~ The method of claim 22, wherein the carriers are comprised of cross-linked polysaccharide particles.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A method of isolating an antibody or an antibody compound from other component(s) of a liquid, ~~which method comprises comprising~~ at least one chromatographic step, wherein in one step, ~~the said~~ liquid is contacted with an ion-exchange chromatography matrix to adsorb the antibody compound in the presence of a buffer comprising a non-ionic polyether, wherein the ligands of the ion-exchange chromatography matrix have been immobilised to one or more porous carriers via dextran extenders.

Claim 26 (currently amended): ~~A method according to~~ The method of claim 25, wherein the non-ionic polyether is poly(ethylene glycol) (PEG).

Claim 27 (currently amended): ~~A method according to claim 25 or 26,~~ The method of claim 25, wherein the carriers ~~comprises of~~ comprise cross-linked polysaccharide particles.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A kit for isolation of antibodies, ~~which kit comprises,~~
comprising in separate compartments, an ion-exchange chromatography matrix
wherein the ligands have been immobilised to porous carriers via dextran
extenders[[,]]; a buffer comprising poly(ethylene glycol) (PEG); and written
instructions for adsorption of antibodies to the matrix.